

The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

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TOP STORIES

An August 2003 Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) investigation has lead to administrative and/or disciplinary action against 11 U.S. Navy Sailors, with another seven determinations pending. Five additional Sailors were cleared during the investigation.

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The third crew exchange in the Navy's Sea Swap program took place recently in Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates, when USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) crew members donned USS Higgins (DDG 76) ballcaps and commenced their deployment after relieving USS Benford (DDG 65) crew members aboard Higgins' hull.

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Nervous students stand in a line outside the Stephen Decatur School multipurpose room. They aren't waiting to take a 45 minute-long test; they're waiting for something that will take all of three seconds.

Page 8

If you have not had a chance to enjoy or participate in an Italian Carnival, you're really missing out. Whether you enjoy folkloric music, fireworks, colorful costumes, wild merry-making, or beautiful floats in the parade, make sure to go and you'll have a fantastic time.

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SDS elementary celebrates Dr. Seuss

Photos By PH3(SW) Betsi Currence
Staff Photographer



Students of Stephen Decatur Elementary hold a parade to celebrate Theodor Geisel's (Dr. Seuss) birthday. The students dressed up as characters from Dr. Seuss books and other children's paraded around the bus loop in front of the school. The parade marks the beginning of a week long reading celebration at the school called Read Across America.



Dogfish: practicing for when it's real

By JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

It's early in the morning, and assistance is needed in an area of Sicily. Six Spanish Marine Special Forces personnel destined for a parachute jump in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea each put on their parachutes and board an aircraft. As they jump, the Spanish submarine *SP5 Galerna* surfaces to pluck the commandos out of the water and insert them into position on land, where they can aid the situation.

It may sound like a Hollywood script, but this exact scenario was being practiced during NATO's largest annual anti-submarine warfare exercise, Operation Dogfish 2004, off the coast of Siracusa, Sicily, on Feb. 29 and Mar. 1.

"This is the 29th year this exercise has been run in a scenario that has gotten more and more complex as the years have gone on," said Lt. Cmdr. Harvey Burwin of the British Royal Navy, Public Information Officer for



Spanish Special Forces parachute from a Spanish T-19 operating off Sicily during NATO's Exercise Dogfish 2004 which took place from 19 February to 3 March 2004.

Regional Headquarters, Allied Forces Southern Europe. "There are 14 nations represented this year with eight submarines, 19 maritime patrol aircraft and seven surface ships."

The parachute jump occurred during the day of the exercise, called "phase three," which is the more complex part of the operation. "From day one the exercise started with very simple procedures," said Burwin on the day of the jump. "They have now developed such that further out to sea we have aircraft, submarines and ships all fighting each other. The intention is that each aircraft, each Dogfish, page13

HC-4 Sailors of the Year

By JO1(SW) Brian Johnson
Staff Writer

Recently Helicopter Support Squadron Four (HC-4) announced their Junior and Senior Sailors of the Year for 2003.

"This command has one [unit identification code (UIC)] that is for shore billets and one UIC for sea billets," said CMDMC (SS) Shawn Sarver. "So we are able to pick four Sailors of the Year, a junior and senior sailor for each UIC."

The HC-4 senior shore Sailor of the year is ABH1 (AW) Jorge Escobar, a 17 year Navy veteran who has spent the majority of his career at sea.

"Petty Officer Escobar is one of our two ABHs and even though he is out of his normal element, he is our resident expert on teaching just about anything, including teaching our young airman about being plane captains," said Sarver. "He usually ends up with most of the

young airmen and makes sure they are on the right path."

While Escobar has been with HC-4 for two years, being named the command's Sailor of the year still came as a shock to him. "I have no idea why I was chosen. I was just doing my job," Escobar said. "I think it's great, but I was surprised because I know there was top-notch competition."

The HC-4 senior sea Sailor of the Year is AM1 (AW) James Hale. Hale has done a lot in his first year with HC-4 and according to Sarver that is why he was chosen as Sailor of the Year.

"Petty Officer Hale has only been with us about a year but in that time he revamped our Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist program and took over as the command liaison with [Stephen Decatur School] for the mentor program," Sarver said. "He's one of those first class petty officers other first classes follow."

The HC-4 junior shore Sailor of the Year is YN2 Nicholas Wilson, who is new to the Navy with just over

four years of service, but an old hand at Sailor of the year competition.

"I was runner up for Sailor of the Year for the Korean peninsula as a E-2 at my last command," said Wilson.

Wilson, a native of St. Louis, is the LPO of the executive administration department for HC-4, and credits his determination to get the job done for his being named JSOY. "It is rewarding to be recognized for doing a good job," he said.

In the coming year Wilson will be transferring to be a flag writer at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois and Sarver thinks he will be an asset at his new command. "Petty Officer Wilson is very customer service oriented, if someone needs something he makes sure they get it quickly, he is very knowledgeable about the YN world and keeps the commanding and executive officer's paperwork going," Sarver said.

HC-4, page12



Direct Line

Capt. T.L. Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

We often hear that "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." This means that the first day of March is often stormy, and the last day is mild and warm. Another saying is, "April borrowed from March three days, and they were ill." This refers to the first three days of April, which are generally rough and blustery like March. A third saying calls the first three days of March "blind days" because they are "unlucky." If rain falls on these days, farmers supposedly will have poor harvests.

The stormy March has come at last,
With wind, and cloud, and changing skies;
I hear the rushing of the blast
That through the snowy valley flies.
—William Cullen Bryant
March is National Woman's History Month, National Peanut Month, and National Youth Art Month. Some important dates in March:
March 2: the birthday of the beloved author and illustrator Dr. Seuss. His real name was Theodor Geisel.
March 9: Charles Graham patented false teeth in 1822.
March 11: 21-year-old Mary Shelley published her legendary horror book, *Frankenstein*, in 1818.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day
March 29: Coca-Cola was introduced on this date in 1886.
Frederic Chopin, Michelangelo, Luther Burbank, James Earl Ray, L. Ron Hubbard, Spike Lee, Cesar Chavez, Fannie Farmer, and the Pillsbury Dough Boy were all born in March.

Some of our upcoming March events on base include:
A Little Touch of Harry on March 10, in the base theater. Enjoy a witty adaptation of Shakespeare's Henry V. You'll love this thoroughly professional, energetic and moving show. Trys Lemerande is a remarkable actor and his cutting of Shakespeare's great history play into a one man show is phenomenal. Also, on March 13, our Spring Fun Fair will be in the NAS I gym. Bring the whole family out and jump-start your spring with MWR's Fun Fair. We'll have a Sicilian puppet show, face painting, jugglers and more! Kids will get a chance to make ice cream snowmen, crafts, and play fun games.

MWR has a plethora of shopping experiences, sporting events, travel plans, and fun for all of our Sailors and their families planned in the month of March. Please check out the March edition of *The Preview!*

HEALTHWATCH

Provider in the Spotlight

Letitia A. Stanton, MS, CCC-SLP is an Early Intervention Speech-Language Pathologist and a Civilian Contractor for Sterling Medical Corporation. Stanton works at EDIS (Educational and Developmental Intervention Services) - Building T-205, next to the school. She last worked at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. While there she worked primarily in Outpatient Pediatrics but also worked with adults in the Rehab, Skilled Nursing Facility, Definitive Observation Unit, and Intensive Care Units. She was also the Speech-Language Pathologist for that hospital's Cleft Palate Clinic.

Ms. Stanton received a Bachelor's of Science Degree from James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA) for her double major in Spanish and speech-language pathology. Here Masters of Science Degree was in Speech-Language Pathology and was earned at The Pennsylvania State University (State College, PA). Stanton has received a Certificate of Clinical Competence; she is Hanen Certified, and ASHA's ACE (Award for Continuing Education) Recipient - June 2003. Her interests include bilingual therapy (Spanish and Italian), augmentative and alternative communication, and behavioral inter-

vention.
How do beneficiaries make an appointment with Letitia Stanton? Please stop by the EDIS building (next to the school) or call 624-4536 regarding developmental concerns for children BE-LOW age 3. (The school has its own Speech-Language Pathologist for children 3 years and older).



Medical Corps celebrates 133 years of service

By Doris M. Ryan
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs
WASHINGTON (NNS) — More than 4,000 Navy physicians around the world will celebrate the Navy Medical Corps birthday March 3.

Uniformed physicians, both active-duty and Reserve, are part of a unique health care organization where they practice medicine in Military Treatment Facilities (MTF), in the field, aboard ships, on submarines and with aircraft squadrons. They focus on maintaining the health and readiness of active-duty Sailors and Marines, and at the Medical Corps, page 11



CRIMESTOPPER'S HOTLINE

Feb. 23 — Feb. 29
The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:
Traffic accidents without injuries - 15
Traffic accident with injuries - 4
Car break-ins - 0
DUI - 0
DUI's 2004 - 2
DUI's 2003 - 58

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NJP Results

E-6 Violation of the UCMJ article 134 (obstruction of justice) and article 134 (communicating a threat.) Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 45 days; extra duties for 45 days; forfeiture of \$1169 pay per month for two months (suspended for six months); reduction to next inferior pay grade (suspended for six months).

E-3 Violation of the UCMJ article 117 (provoking speeches and gestures), article 128 (assault, consummated by a battery), and article 134 (disorderly conduct, drunkenness.) Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 45 days (30 days suspended for six months); extra duties for 45 days (30 days suspended for six months); forfeiture of \$668 pay per month for two months (one month suspended for six months); reduction to next inferior pay grade (suspended for six months).

By J02 Kimberly Rodgers
Navy NewsStand Staff

WASHINGTON (NNS) — An August 2003 Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) investigation has led to administrative and/or disciplinary action against 11 U.S. Navy Sailors, with another seven determinations pending. Five additional Sailors were cleared during the investigation.

The investigation was first initiated in 2001 when the Connecticut Statewide Narcotics Task Force (CSNTF) asked NCIS to intervene, after local Connecticut police suspected two Sailors from Commander, Naval Submarine Group 2 were involved in illegal drug activity while trespassing on AMTRAK property.

The NCIS investigator subsequently questioned the Sailors, who admitted to illegal drug use and alleged that other Groton submarine force personnel were involved in the illegal drug dealings.

However, when the CSNTF authorities expressed concerns regarding a task force member's personal safety, the NCIS agent decided to delay informing the Navy chain of command - in violation of Navy policy. NCIS agents scheduled a follow-up meeting with CSNTF authorities for Sept. 11, 2001. When the terrorist attacks occurred, the entire case was subsumed by events. The NCIS agents involved were appropriately disciplined for failing to report the incident to the Sailors' commands. By August 2003, one of the

11 Sailors adjudicated, 7 pending in drug charges

two Sailors had completed his active-duty obligation, and the Department of the Navy's Central Adjudication Facility queried the remaining Sailor's chain of command regarding the status 2001 illegal drug use investigation upon a routine update and review of the Sailor's security clearance.

As this was the Navy chain of command's first notification, the command took swift and decisive action, removing all of the suspected Sailors from submarine duty and requesting that NCIS immediately re-initiate the investigation. NCIS also took effective corrective action to ensure that its procedures for notifying respective chains of command are followed when opening an investigation regarding Navy personnel.

"The Navy has a zero tolerance on drug use," said Lt. Phil Rossi, a spokesman for COMSUBGRU 2. "Drug use is inconsistent with Navy core values, and all allegations of drug use by Navy personnel are fully investigated."

Twenty-three Sailors assigned to 18 commands were investigated. The pay grades of the involved Sailors ranged from E-3 to E-6.

To date, nine Sailors have been tried at general, summary or special courts-martial, with punishments including punitive damages, confinement, reductions in rate and forfeitures of pay; two Sailors are pending an Article 32 investigation; three Sailors are pending pretrial investigation; and four have been or are pending administrative separation from the service. Commands have taken no action on

Drug charges, page 8

Everybody Needs a Little Forgiveness



By Chaplain Richard Townes
Command Chaplain

As a young boy I used to love to throw tennis balls against the side of my family's redbrick home. I imagined that I was Denny McLain (the last 30 game winner in major league baseball) pitching my beloved Detroit Tigers to victory in the seventh game of the World Series. As it is with any great fire-baller, once in a while one would get away from me. Then, one fateful summer day, a wild pitch went through a bedroom window.

Of course, my dad had told me repeatedly that I was not to throw my ball against the house because, "You're going to break a window!" So when my flaming spheroid went crashing through the glass, past my grandpa's head, and ricocheted off my mom's china cabinet, I knew I was in trouble. Later that evening dad summoned me for a conference on the mound. Fully expecting to be on the receiving end of his belt and ejected from the game of life I solemnly marched into his room to plead for mercy. To my eternal relief dad granted it. In his fatherly "I told you so" voice he said, "Son, this is what happens when you don't listen to me. Things go wrong and you end up in trouble." Then he put his big hairy arm around my shoulders and led me outside where a new pane of glass was waiting. We replaced that window together and I learned a valuable lesson about confession and absolution.

I sinned against my father. I had done what he told me not to and deserved to be punished, but he was compassionate, understanding, and, more importantly, forgiving.

Since that day so many years ago I have sinned in much worse ways. I'm ashamed of many of the things I have done in my life. I'm willing to bet you are too. All of us go against the rules from time to time and all of us deserve to be punished when we do. However, as a Christian I also know that I can plea for mercy from God and receive it on account of Christ's taking my punishment for me. That mercy from the heavenly Father is called forgiveness, and it's something all of us need.

Not every one on this base believes in Jesus but the principle of forgiveness is needed nonetheless. It's needed at work, at home, and in our daily lives. Holding a grudge, being angry, and focusing on the faults of others is never good. It stands as a roadblock between husband and wife, boss and workers, and friends. If you have angered someone you love or a coworker - APOLOGIZE! Don't let your pride stand in the way, own up to your mistake and say you're sorry. Apologizing will not remove the consequence of your wrongful action, but it will aid the recovery and strengthening of relationships. Conversely, if someone apologizes to you - accept that apology. You'll feel better and so will the other person.

The next time someone throws a ball through your window, practice a little compassion and forgiveness, and then see if life improves.

NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass
Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41*
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Traditional Service
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

United Pentecostal Church, International
Sunday Noon Chapel, (NAS II)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Jewish Shabbat Service
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays
Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m. (NAS I & II Chapels)
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study
4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-9049.

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NAVY NEWS

Sea Swap Initiative sees positive results after first year in surface force

By JO2 (SW) Jason Heavner
Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) — The third crew exchange in the Navy's Sea Swap program took place recently in Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates, when USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) crew members donned USS Higgins (DDG 76) ballcaps and commenced their deployment after relieving USS Benfold (DDG 65) crew members aboard Higgins' hull. After the swap, team Benfold crew members flew back to San Diego to man the hull of John Paul Jones.

Team Benfold crew members experienced one of the major advantages of Sea Swap: reduced transit time to the area of responsibility, which has been a morale boost for crews involved. "We frequently hear from Sailors that one of the disadvantages to six-deployments are the long and tedious transits. With maximum on-station time, they are getting a quicker access to real-world missions," said Vice Adm. Timothy LaFleur, Commander, Naval Surface Forces.

One of the real-world missions that Higgins took part of was the coalition force that launched Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles onto military targets in Iraq during the opening stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Shortly after the Benfold crew swapped hulls with Higgins in April, they executed numerous queries and boardings of vessels suspected of having ties to the Al Qaeda terrorist network. They also conducted maritime intercept operations in the north Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden, which suc-

cessfully deterred senior Taliban and Al Qaeda operatives from choosing an avenue of escape.

"Sea Swap has been running more smoothly and efficiently than planned," said Cmdr. Thomas Deitz, Command, Naval Surface Force operations officer. "There were initial concerns when OIF began last spring as far as the responsibilities like battle groups, strike forces and maritime intercept operations. With the increased rate of forward presence that we've been getting out of the two platforms, it's been very effective."

According to Deitz, the program has been so effective that plans are being drawn up to include Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigates but no dates have been set yet.

Despite the positive results of Sea Swap, it's still too early to say if the concept will be a mainstay in the surface force, but when it comes to experimenting with other classes of ships, LaFleur said, "Yes we are, which is why we tried this program out, to see what works and what doesn't. So if increased forward presence is needed in a certain part of the world, we'll know if swapping crews is a viable option. You can't know that unless you do it and find out."



Singapore (Apr. 21, 2003) — Following a muster of ship's company on the pier, the crew of the guided missile destroyer USS Benfold (DDG 65) relieves the crew of the guided missile destroyer USS Higgins (DDG 76) as part of the U.S. Navy's Sea Swap initiative. This is the second phase of the Navy's Sea Swap initiative, which involves rotating three crews through a single ship to allow for more time on station in theater, while returning crews home at six-month intervals.

Troop rotations underway in Iraq

By JO2 Wes Eplin
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command
Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet Public Affairs

KUWAIT NAVAL BASE, Kuwait (NNS) — The transition from the previous force rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom to the current one is now well underway.

Troops and equipment are continuing to flow into Kuwait Naval Base and the port of Ash Shuaybah under the guidance of U.S. 5th Fleet's Commander Task Force (CTF) 51 and the Army's 359th Transportation Battalion.

In a tremendous joint effort pairing units comprised of both active-duty and Reserve troops from the Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Coast Guard, seven ships of military personnel and cargo offloaded at Kuwait Naval Base and Ash Shuaybah to begin the journey north to Iraq.

Various units of CTF 51 began arriving in Kuwait Feb. 2. By Feb. 23, they had established a bustling base camp at Kuwait Naval Base, offloaded seven ships, including MV Lopez, MV Baugh, MV Phillips, MV Button, MV Williams, USS Boxer (LHD 4) and USS Bataan (LHD 5), and had already broken camp and made preparations to go home.

Living in an austere tent camp in a high-threat area, crews worked tirelessly to finish the jobs. After working around-the-clock to offload Lopez, Baugh and Phillips, Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 1, detachment BRAVO, from Williamsburg, Va., volunteered to continue offloading Button and Williams, as the previously-assigned cargo handling team was delayed in travel.

In all, more than 4,472 tons of causeway sections, 131 truck vehicles, 2,000 track vehicles and 12,440 tons of

combat cargo were unloaded in barely three weeks.

"It's really a demonstration of how quickly the Navy Marine Corps team can team up, gear up, travel halfway across the world and deliver a fighting force onto the beach again on very short notice," said Operations Specialist 1st Class Jamie McKee of Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 5 embarked aboard Boxer. ACU 5 ferried troops and equipment ashore via Landing Craft, Air Cushion (LCAC).

For Bataan, the deployment marked the ship's fourth trip to the Gulf since Sept. 11, 2001. Bataan participated in both Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"Now we've come back to help the effort for Operation Iraqi Freedom II and to do the rotation for the forces in country," said Bataan's Commanding Officer, Capt. Earl S. Yarger. "The crew has been really magnificent. They've risen to every challenge."

Yet even as these ships were unloading, other troops were preparing for the trip home. The Army's 690th Medical Company, Ground Ambulance, arrived in theater March 17. After more than eleven months, the unit has traveled more than 40,000 miles and evacuated more than 500 injured Soldiers.

"It's been an experience," said Army Capt. Kevin Hamilton, commander of the 690th Medical Company, Ground Ambulance. "Just to see the big Army work, to see my unit work, it was an unforgettable experience. We've put in work, we've had some exchanges, but we are very fortunate and we're taking all of our Soldiers back with us."

As these troops looked forward to getting home to friends and loved ones, others stand ready, willing and very able to take their place.

"The morale is real high," said Marine Staff Sgt. Patrick Troop rotation, page 11

Sexual Assault Victim Intervention

SAVI offers a Sexual Assault Hotline staffed with trained Advocates who man the SAVI Hotlines 24/7. The number is 335-642-8312 or 335-606-6146.

Golden 13 officer dies; pioneer helped redefine the face of the Navy

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Justice William S. White, one of the first African-American officers commissioned in the Navy and later a judge in the appellate court system in Chicago, died Feb. 16.

White served in the Navy from October 1943 to March 1946 as a public information officer, making history along with 12 others collectively known as the Golden 13—the first group of African-American naval officers.

"The Golden Thirteen were guiding lights of honor, courage and commitment not only for African-American officers like me, but for all Sailors. They helped make the Navy what it is today," said Ensign Weurielus Johnson, a civil engineer corps officer attached to the Public Works Center in Norfolk.

Born July 14, 1914, in Chicago, White served principally as the liaison officer between the Navy and African-American newspapers, magazines and civic organizations during World War II, according to his discharge papers.

White was proud of the Navy and his service during World War II.

"He wanted the public to know of the significant contributions of African-Americans to the war effort," said Paul Stillwell, author of "The Golden Thirteen: Recollections of the First Black Naval Officers."

He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Chicago in 1935 and 1937 respectively, and won the Judge of the Year award from the Cook County (Illinois) Bar Association in 1972.

"He turned to law to make the world fair, to level the playing field and to give everybody a chance, said his daughter, Sara Marilyn Steinbach, in an interview with the Chicago Tribune. "He wanted to do good for other people."

Of the original 13 officers, only Graham E. Martin and Frank E. Sublett are still living.

Navy establishes cryptologic technician networks (CTN) rating

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — In yet another force-shaping move, the Navy announced the establishment of the Cryptologic Technician Networks (CTN) rating in February. It is the first new rating of the 21st century.

The new rating, which became effective Feb. 6, is designed to further develop a skilled work force to meet fleet requirements in computer network defense and other computer network operations. It also supports the Chief of Naval Operations' guidance to transform information operations.

"This rating will be based on 21st century computer skills. It is just one more of many force-shaping initiatives the Navy is pursuing," said Cmdr. Mike Bryce, Cryptologic Technician community manager. "More importantly, this one will better give the Navy the ability to defend and exploit computer network systems."

That mission area is currently being performed by the Cryptologic Technician (Communications), Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) and Cryptologic Technician (Administration), page 11

2004 SEABEE Ball March 13

Tickets on sale now
PRICES: E5 AND BELOW \$10;
E6: \$15;
E7 - O4: \$20;
O5 - O6: \$25;
Government Employees: \$20
UA3 - UA1: \$15;
UA4 and all UC: \$10



For more information call 624-5771

News Briefs

Spring Retreat

The Protestant Women of the Chapel would like to invite you to a Spring Retreat located at the NAS 1 Chapel on March 19th & 20th.

As members of the military community we are constantly uprooted and replanted. It is easy to forget that God is in control and has a plan for us no matter where we are. Join us this weekend as we explore this concept and face the challenge to Bloom Where God Plants You.

For more information contact Betsy Beajon, 095-309-478 (bbeajon@aol.com) or Bonnie Lader, 333-973-7692.

Commissary hours

The NAS 1 Commissary will be changing their early bird hours. Instead of opening at 7 a.m. on Monday thru Friday, the commissary will open at 8 a.m. effective Monday, March 8. All other operating hours will remain the same.

HIS Homeschool curriculum meeting

Friday, March 19, 1-3 p.m. call Irene for location at 624-1294.

Do you homeschool or are you thinking about it? We have a support group for you! Bring all your questions or ideas to this meeting. FMI about who we are and when we meet give us a call.

NMCRS fund drive

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive committee chairman would like to announce the opening of the 2004 Navy-Marine Corps fund drive.

Contact your departmental representative for more details.

Postal note

Naval Air Station Sigonella has been selected as a test site for U.S. Postal Service pre-sort mail distribution.

What does this mean to you?

Your mail will be expedited to you by decreasing the mail transit time from New York to Sigonella.

The pre-sort will only work if you are utilizing the ZIP+4 in your address.

Please notify your correspondents immediately of your correct new mailing address in order to make this survey a success.

Your ZIP+4 consists of 09627 plus your command box number as the last four.

The Energy Block

Energy conservation works hand in hand with environmental, goals are different but the outcome would be the same. So it is important to remember that what you save today will benefit all in the future.

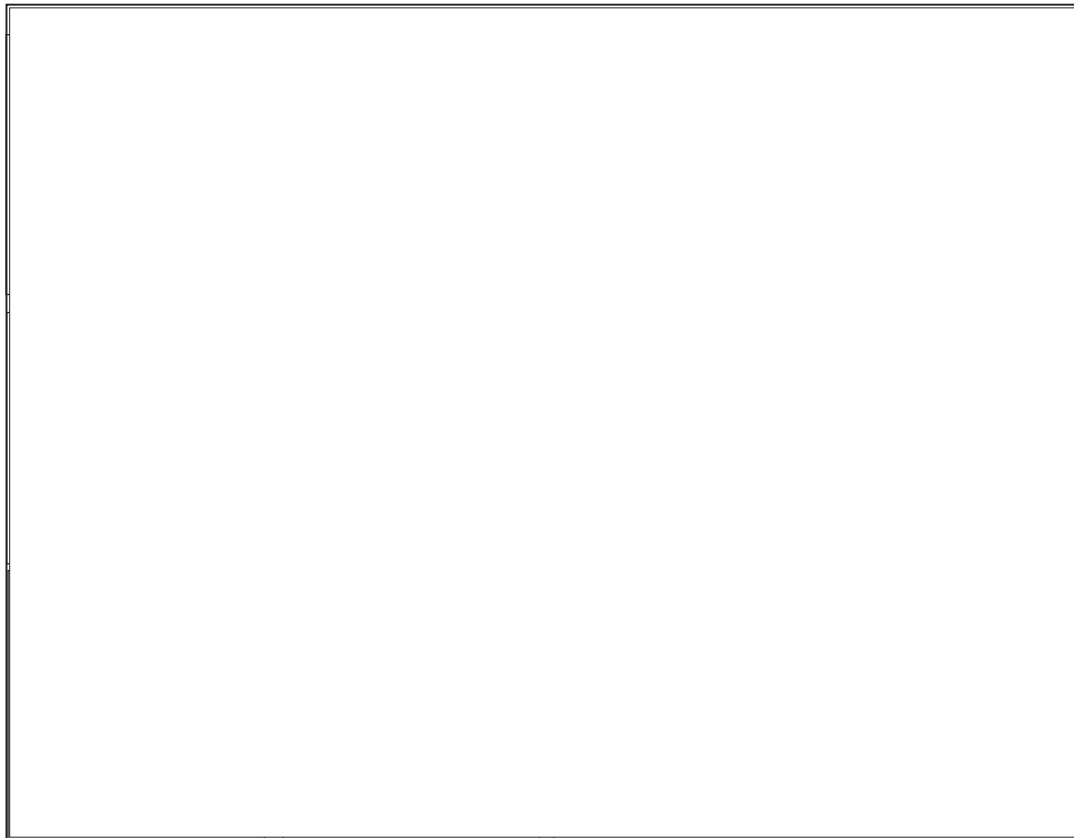
I have a battery jar here in my office. Folks if you can find a recycling bin for your old batteries please bring them to my office where we can pass them on to the proper dept.

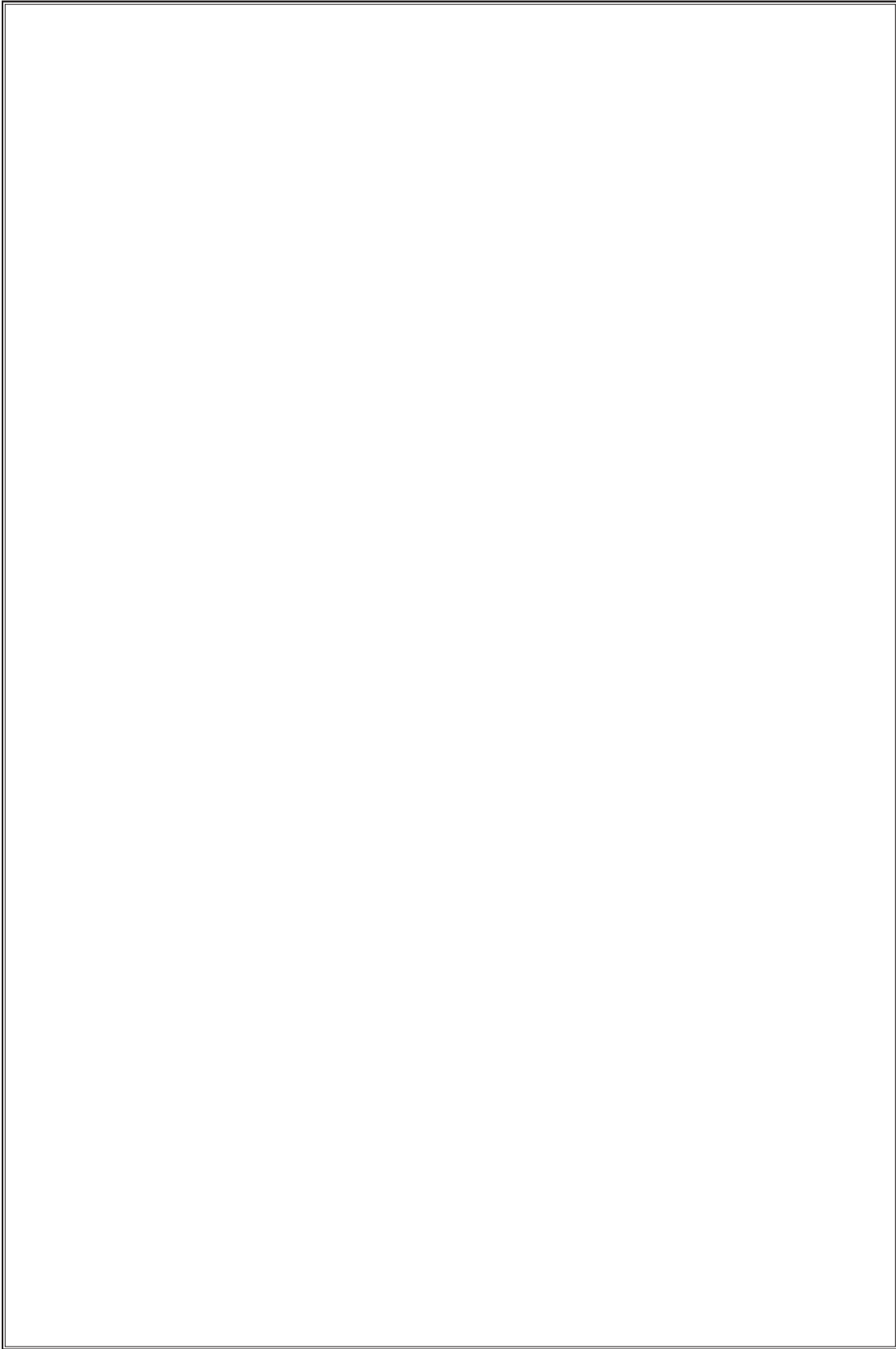
On a different note, for my articles, I would like to challenge everyone to an Energy Trivia Question every week with the name of the first person who can give me the correct answer in the following article. So break out the thinking caps, and remember, as my boss would say "The Best Energy Saver Is The Off Button".

Ques: Who is considered the father of Electricity and why? Call me with the correct answer X2064 or e-mail me under wolf@sicily.navy.mil

Let's use, not abuse

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>COMMUNITY CALENDAR</div>					5	6
					Match	International Dineout: Catania by Night & Japanese Restaurant ITT Call 624-4396
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ficuzza and Corleone Winery ITT Call 624-4396	PTO Meeting 2:30 p.m. Rm. B25	Paintball Trip AU Call 624-4271	A Little Touch of Harry 6 p.m. NAS I Theater Call 624-5187	Patti Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	Crater Pub Karaoke Happy Hour from 4 to 9 p.m. Karaoke from 5 p.m. to midnight.	Best Ball Golf Tournery: 4 Person Scramble tee time 9 a.m. Il Picciolo Golf Club Call 624-2710
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Siracusa I and Seafood Restaurant ITT Call 624-4396	Youth Baseball Practice begins School gets out at 11 a.m.	No School Scrapbooking Class Teen Center Free for all teens. 3:15 to 5 p.m.	St. Patricks Day Special Theater Giveaways, free popcorn	Catania Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	HIS Homeschool curriculum meeting 1-3 p.m. Call Irene 624-1294 for location.	Horse Trekking Southern Mt. Etna AU Call 624-4271
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Scilla & Reggio Calabria ITT Call 624-4396	Monday Night Bingo Crater Pub Cards on sale at 5:30 p.m. Games start at 6:30 p.m.	Paintball Trip AU Call 624-4271	Practice Pasta! Preteens 205 Youth Center 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.	Catania Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	Cooking Class 3:30 - 5 p.m. NAS I Teen Center	Valley of the Temples: Agrigento & Shopping ITT Call 624-4396
Sat., March 6		Sun., March 7		Mon., March 8		Wed., March 9
Join AU as they hike through the gorge of Pantallica, where you'll find rock tombs dating back to the 13th century B.C. The gorge is 400 meters above sea level, allowing for great photo opportunities. Call 624-4271 for more information.		The fun is at the Crater Pub. Club and Pizza Villa snack bar opens at 5 p.m. Eight-ball tournament begins at 6 p.m. Play free pool, watch your favorite show or sports on our TVs, or just kick back and relax.		It's Monday night Bingo at the Crater Pub. Cash prizes are given out with many new games. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m. Games start at 6:30 p.m. Don't miss out on the fun.		Explore Mt. Etna on horseback. Experienced riding instructors will guide a three-hour trek up the volcano. Enjoy incredible views and maybe a little snow. Wear warm clothing. Minimum riding experience is required. Sign up early. Call 624-4271 for more information.
Thurs., March 10						
Take center stage with "TJ the Karaoke Queen" at Crater Pub at 7 p.m. We have over 6,000 songs to choose from. Watch out for Shotgun Karaoke.						
Fri., March 5						
It's All Request and Shotgun Karaoke night at Jox Sports Bar. Missed your chance to shine wednesday? Try Shotgun Karaoke.						







By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Salemi celebrates St. Joseph through votive breads

In Sicily, bread as holy food is linked to the cult of St. Joseph that is celebrated throughout the region. One of the most fascinating traditions is that of Salemi. Salemi is a city located in the province of Trapani.

Devotions to San Giuseppe take the form of constructing altars "dressed" with local food that is symbolically offered to the poor and needy. According to tradition, the number of items on the altar can't be less than 19 or more than 101. In Salemi, elaborate bread altars are an important part of the public celebration. Since the 19th century the *Cene di San Giuseppe* (St. Joseph Dinners) also called the "St. Joseph's Table" are prepared for the festival that is held on March 19. These special "dinners," which actually take place at midday, consist of a banquet offered by the devotees to a group of children who symbolize the Holy Family. It includes 101 courses, all of them meatless, because of Lenten obligations. Spaghetti mixed with olive oil, breadcrumbs, sugar, cinnamon and parsley, different kinds of cakes and vegetarian omelets are among the food offered to the young guests. The devotee, who prepares the meal, is someone who shows belief and reverence to St. Joseph. The saint's help could be invoked for the healing from a sickness or just to express devotion. The preparation of the dinner begins eight days before the festival. Three needy children, referred to as *Santi* (saints) or *Virgineddi* (virgins), who represent the Holy Family, are invited to the meal to celebrate the holiday. St. Joseph is worshipped as the saint of Providence and the patron and protector of the family and of the poor, both embodied in the invited guests. The building of a chapel-like structure, made of wood or iron, next to the tables, where the *Cena*



On March 19, in Salemi, a small village in the Trapani province, celebrations will be held to honor San Giuseppe, (St. Joseph), devotees prepare votive bread featuring complex shapes.

takes place, is another ritual of the celebration. The chapel contains a three-tiered altar that is surrounded by an ornamental roof-like projection framed in myrtle and laurel, and hung with lemons, oranges, and hun-

dreds of small, ornately shaped breads.

The altars contain candles, crosses and other religious objects, flowers, select foods, a jar of wine and three large, more intricately ornate breads (*Cudduri*) intended for the kids. These breads, which represent the Holy Family, are set in the first step. A large framed print of St. Joseph or of the Holy Family is placed at the center of the chapel.

During the banquet, the believers recite monologues and prayers named *Parti* in honor of Saint Joseph. While eating, the three kids offer food to the visitors. At the end of the meal, the landlords take large loafs, which were previously blessed, to the table. Eventually, it is divided and distributed among the visitants.

This popular tradition has been kept for a very long time; every year it attracts thousands of tourists.

Salemi is located on a hill in the heart of the Trapani province. It can be easily reached through the Catania-Palermo highway. Once in Palermo take the Palermo-Mazara del Vallo highway and exit Salemi.

For more information call Trapani Tourist Office at 0923/545511.

Women's Day to be celebrated in Italy

On March 8, while driving around on the economy you may notice that there will be dozens of "improvised" street vendors selling branches of mimosa. The answer is easy: it will be Women's Day!

According to tradition, on this occasion, men present women who are important in their lives (girlfriends, wives, mothers, etc) with a twig of this delicate yellow flower to commemorate Women's Day. Stories say there was mimosa growing outside the

factory where a tragic event, from which Women's Day originated, took place at the turn of last century in New York. In 1908, a group of women working at the Cotton Textile Factory staged a protest against inhumane working conditions and low wages. The strike went on for several days until Mr. Johnson, the factory owner, miffed by the protest, locked the protesters inside the factory. Unfortunately, a fire of unknown origin broke out inside the factory killing the trapped protesters.

A few years later, during the Conference of Socialist Women that was being held in Copenhagen, Clara Zetkin, a German socialist leader, suggested that an International Day would be held each year to commemorate that ill-fated strike and assist in achieving universal suffrage for women. Representatives from 17 countries praised the proposal. Thus, Woman's Day celebration became official. On this day, special celebrations and meetings aimed at supporting women's economic, social and political rights are held throughout the world. In Italy it's a big event.

However, like it happens for all celebrations, Women's Day is also a commercial event. Florists strike great bargains selling thousands of mimosa bunches. Restaurants also make big profits as crowds of women go out to dinner leaving husbands and boyfriends at home.

Ron Kenoly to Perform in Acireale

Ron Kenoly, one of the most popular leaders of praise and worship music in the world, will perform in Sicily on March 12 at the Palasport in Acireale at 7 p.m. For more info call 349-4337640 or visit <http://www.successpipeline.com/unitingthefire> or send an e-mail to the following addresses: tickets@gospelfellowshipoutreach.org or concertkenoly@yahoo.it or megass@jumpy.it.



Word Find

Vice Presidents

J S E R J C X O T S T E V E N S O N Y L W J Y G U
C W R N O A A N L E U Y N R G D I R N I K C E R B B
X M O G J O C L L L E W F T H Y Z O L R V O L A R
R O O C X G S A H R A T O S R W R S I U X L K V N
M E M E G H D E H O V H K T H U O R I H F F R E R
O X L Y C N A P V A U C S E Z N M F E E J A A I B
F S L L O A M M S E I N E R U B N A V G O X B E R
X N I M E U L I L R L L T W A N N K N D H E P R Q
I A F S H F T L D I E T R M W M O P C I N Q R O E
G A R N E R E N A R N A M R E H S T S L S U E G A
F G T U J E K G W R U T R A A E R O A L X W
A D A C X H C Y C N I X O N M V W G M O N L Y M Y
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R C L I N T O N B V R U T V D L B G A E G E U R C
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N D A C M K R T R I C R X Y S I G B G M C H Q A J
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C P I T S V D H S J H E V J Q W D Q B A C C Q Z U
V M I K G Q V N L M Y G R C Q X R D M O A U T G Z
S R Y H H V X T R M O I C H F L G L J K I N H G
G M I T K Q M P C E I A F T Y N X I J W K N B I J

ADAMS
AGNEW
ARTHUR
BARKLEY
BRECKINRIDGE
BURR
BUSH
CALHOUN
CHENEY
CLINTON
COLFAX
COOLIDGE

CURTIS
DALLAS
DAWES
FAIRBANKS
FILLMORE
FORD
GARNER
GERRY
GORE
HAMLIN
HENDRICKS
HOBART

HUMPHREY
JOHNSON
KING
MARSHALL
MONDALE
MORTON
NIXON
QUALYE
ROCKEFELLER
ROOSEVELT
SHERMAN
STEVENSON

TOMPKINS
TRUMAN
TYLER
VAN BUREN
WALLACE
WHEELER
WILSON

TRIVIA

- 1) In what city could you visit the National Bowling Hall of Fame?
 - 2) From the name of which Roman deity is the word volcano derived?
 - 3) Who would collect a giant swallowtail; A:) herbalist; B:) numismatist; C:) topiarist; D:) lepidopterist?
 - 4) What was the name of the first killer whale ever held in captivity?
Shamu, Moby Doll, Namu, Corky?
 - 5) What Hungarian city is split by the Danube River; A:) Belgrade; B:) Budapest; C:) Berlin?
- (Answers on page 11)

Movie Connection

JOHN'S Theater Schedule

Friday, March 5



6 p.m.
50 First Dates (PG-13)**



8:30 p.m.
Miracle (PG)

Saturday, March 6



1 p.m.
Disney's Teacher's Pet:
The Movie (PG)**



3:30 p.m.
Shattered Glass (PG-13)



6 p.m.
Mona Lisa Smile (PG-13)

Sunday, March 7



1 p.m.
Stuck on You (PG-13)



3:30 p.m.
Peter Pan (PG)



6 p.m.
50 First Dates (PG-13)

Monday, March 8



6 p.m.
Paycheck (PG-13)*



8 p.m.
Mona Lisa Smile (PG-13)

Theater Closed Tuesdays

Wednesday, March 10



6 p.m.
Cultural Show: "A Little
Touch of Harry" --
Shakespeare Recital Doors
open at 5:30 p.m.--Free



8 p.m.
Shattered Glass (PG-13)

Thursday, March 11



6 p.m.
Stuck on You (PG-13)*



8:30 p.m.
50 First Dates (PG-13)

Friday, March 12



6 p.m.
Torque (PG-13)**



8:30 p.m.
House of Sand and Fog (R)**

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at x4248)

SCHOOL NEWS

SDS Seniors take class trip



By Neva Austin
Junior

The senior class and yearbook staff went with two sponsors, Mr. Les Bryan and Mr. Shawn McCarthy, on an adventurous trip to the Tree of 100 Horses as well as to Mt. Etna in the early morning of Tuesday, February 17.

The trip began with a bus ride to Sant'Alfio to view the biggest tree in all of Europe. The chestnut tree is 2000 years old and known as *Il Castagno dei 100 Cavalli* ("The Chestnut Tree of 100 Horses"). The legend of the tree goes: A queen found shelter within its cavity for herself and the 100 horsemen accompanying her on a visit to Etna, when they got caught in a storm. The exact details of this tale are not confirmed. Even the name of the queen is unclear. The legend calls her Giovanna (Joan) but nobody is quite sure whether she hailed from Aragon or Anjou. The history books have no record of a Queen Joan visiting Sicily, though the Aragonese and the Angevins were among Sicily's conquering visitors.

Seniors from Stephen Decatur High School have a boys versus girls snowball fight on Mt. Etna during their class trip recently.

The chestnut tree has survived many disasters. One legend also states that one evening in early September it started raining volcanic stones in Sant'Alfio, one of the small towns on the ring of inhabited areas on the slopes of Mount Etna. The town's main concern was not for their destroyed crops but for their greatest treasure, the tree.

After gazing in amazement at the leafless ancient body of a tree, the throng of teens ventured up the mountain for some educational fun in the snow. Approximately 15 minutes from the original destination, which was to Linguaglossa Ski Area, the group of students with their two sponsors, came to a patch of ice. The bus was unable to safely continue on up the road so the group had to backtrack down the mountain. Upon reaching a little kiosk on the side of the road, students rented sleds to ensure a certain amount of fun for the day.

What started off as, "everybody's in it for him/herself fun," turned unexpectedly, when the guys teamed up against the girls in a snowball fight. Snow was flying in all directions. Most of the snow whiffed by the students but some made very hard, very accurate contact.

Almost everyone enjoyed the time spent in the cold. What was appreciated more, however, was the lunch break at a little restaurant on the mountain. Not expecting a group of 30 at one time, the trattoria was still quick to get everyone their orders. After lunch, the two sponsors and the group of teens journeyed back up to their snowy site for one last hour of playing in the snow. With one last bout of snowy antics, the teens attempted to seek revenge on their trip sponsors for the countless times they were struck by the snow. Leaving at approximately 2:00 p.m. to head back, everyone pitched in to bring in all the sleds and make sure everyone was accounted for. Two and a half hours later, with most of the students asleep on the bus, they arrived back at Stephen Decatur around 4:30 p.m.

The point of this trip was to grasp a firmer image of Sicily's natural beauty so that the seniors leaving this year will have great memories of their environment during their last year in high school. It was also just a mini "pre-graduation" break for the senior class. When asked what the true purpose of this affair was, senior class president Mike Maury simply responded, "I just wanted to do something fun for everyone, so that they could have a good time and just relax."

African American history told by youngsters

By Rachel Morken
Staff Writer



Two Stephen Decatur Elementary Students perform during the schools Black History Month program entitled "A Ride on the

Last Thursday, I entered a room full of young children eager to learn a little more about their country's history. It was not the normal, teacher stands in front of the class rambling on about a certain three ships, an ocean, and some guy by the name of Christopher something or other. In fact, the teachers were the ones quietly listening while the students taught the lesson.

Stephen Decatur Elementary School's Kin-

dergarten, along with one of the first grade classes, put on a program entitled, "A Ride on the Freedom Train". It was a wonderful celebration of the African American spirit and how it shaped United States history. The children portrayed numerous African Americans throughout history, telling of their lives and contributions to our nation.

Delores Jenkins, kindergarten teacher at Stephen Decatur Elementary School, helped the students with the program, "I felt the need to do this program because so many of our youngsters know nothing about the history of the African American. Many times it is not taught in the classrooms and children need to learn that many races and nationalities have played a vital role in the development of our great country, African Americans being major contributors in every arena."

The program was more than just a delight for the audience. The students' active involvement helped them retain what they learned. After the program Paige Collins recalled what he had been taught, "I learned that before the war, we were all slaves."

The children gained more than just knowledge of United States history from the program. Katelyn Creech said, "I learned how to play the guitar." Kenny Burgos acquired something that would help him throughout school and life, "I learned to be quiet when people are speaking." Katherine Shepard achieved something of great joy from the program, "I learned to move to the music."

All in all Alexis Marshall summed up the majority response of the program, "It was fun!" It is refreshing to hear students use that word to describe a learning experience at school.

The young students in the program should be proud of their achievement; they did a wonderful job! Jenkins commented, "This is the first time we've attempted a program such as this. I truly hope that this will become an annual event for the school."

Fil-am helps Red Cross with donation

By JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

On Feb. 26, the Filipino-American (Fil-Am) Association at Naval Air Station Sigonella gave the American Red Cross a donation to help with one of their programs on base.

The donation of \$420 helped purchase participant course books for the Red Cross' Healthy Pregnancy/Healthy Baby course.

"It's actually going to buy the books," said Lt. Deborah Coddling, Healthy Pregnancy/Healthy Baby program coordinator. "The only course cost was the books and it could have been a financial burden to some of the more junior enlisted who took the course, which is most of the people I teach."

The books will now be on loan to the participants throughout the three-part program unless they want to purchase it. The course teaches participants how to have a healthy pregnancy, how to safely deliver and information on newborn care.

"We approached the Fil-Am association and asked if they would be willing to support this initiative," said Cecil Goodman, Red Cross station manager. "Just trying to create ways that we can make more people aware of the aspects of the baby course. It turned out

Drug charges from page 2

five Sailors, who have denied any involvement, due to a lack of corroborating evidence.

The Navy has a very proactive drug-testing program, requiring all commands to test 10-20 percent of its Navy personnel monthly, and everyone at least once per year.

There was a 9 percent increase in fiscal year 2003 (FY03) urinalysis drug-testing samples compared to FY02, and an increase of 20 percent compared to FY01. The Navy experienced an 18 percent decrease in positive test results from Sailors compared to FY02, and a 23 percent decrease compared to FY01.

When contacted by NCIS, Sailors implicated



CEC Nito Rosal, Fil-Am president, presents Lt. Deborah Coddling, Red Cross Healthy Baby/Healthy Pregnancy coordinator, a check on behalf on the Fil-Am Association.

to be a very nice situation for everybody. We're really glad to receive this donation."

"This was awesome," said Coddling. "It was one of the factors involved in why some of the people couldn't take the course."

"We were really glad to support this project that the Red Cross has," said CEC Nito Rosal, Fil-Am president. "We're just glad to be of help to the community."

The course is the only one of its kind at Sigonella. Last year the course hosted 60 individuals. This year they can accept as many as sign up.

To sign up for the course, contact the American Red Cross at 624-5921 or 624-5446.

in the investigation, not including those cleared or currently under investigation, were attached to USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720); Naval Support Unit, Ballston Spa, N.Y.; USS Kentucky (Blue) (SSBN 737); USS Nimitz (CVN 68); USS Los Angeles (SSN 688); USS Florida (SSBN 728); USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72); USS Nebraska (Gold) (SSBN 739); USS Helena (SSN 725); USS San Juan (SSN 751); USS Albuquerque (SSN 706) and Submarine Squadron Support Unit, New London, Conn.

The investigation has not identified any Sailors as being under the influence of illegal drugs while on duty.

Ouch, that stings...SDS students stay in school for shots

By JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Nervous students stand in a line outside the Stephen Decatur School multipurpose room. They aren't waiting to take a 45 minute-long test; they're waiting for something that will take all of three seconds.

Then the time comes and students express their concern. "Will it hurt?"

After those three seconds pass and the students sit down, they start bragging. "It didn't hurt," or "That was nothing."

Members of Naval Air Station Sigonella's Naval Hospital distributed tetanus vaccinations on Feb. 25 to SDS middle and high school students who needed them.

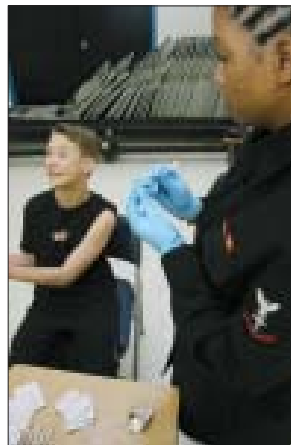
"We have approximately 200 high school kids and middle school kids who are not up to date with their tetanus shots," said Lt. Joey Andres, USNHS staff nurse. "So what we did is rather than them going to the hospital and missing school, we came over here to give the shots."

"When I pulled my report, I had a little over 200 kids who were due for their tetanus shots," said Sabrina Misuraca, SDS secondary school nurse. "Approximately 200 kids were due this spring and over the summer, so we just decided to do it this way and try and catch as many of the kids as we could."

Misuraca said the students who do not get the shots could be disenrolled from school. "It's a DoDDS school policy that there are certain immunizations which are required for school attendance," Misuraca said. "For kids who are delinquent on them, the policy is they have 10 working days to become current with the shots. If not, they can face disenrollment from the school. And tetanus is one of those shots."

"We're doing it in three phases," said Andres. "We're trying to get 100 students during phase one. In March we'll have another one. The third phase (in April) will be for those who missed their shots the first time. We're trying to get everybody up to date with tetanus shots."

"A lot of kids and parents are not able to get out of school or get off work to go over the hospital to go to immunizations," said HM3 HM3 Melodee Videau. "So we figured we'd just make it easier and come to them. They just come over for a few minutes, get the shot, wait 15 minutes in case of allergic reactions or side effects, then they go right back to class. That way the parents don't have to



HM3 Melodee Videau gets ready to administer a tetanus vaccination to a Stephen Decatur School student. Members of Sigonella's Hospital came to give the shots in school for the convenience of the students.

take off work. The kids are still physically in school and when they're done they go right back."

"With this they're only having to miss 20 minutes from class versus two hours," said Misuraca.

For the students, the shots were a minor inconvenience. "Before they get the shot they're scared and say, 'Is it going to hurt? It's going to hurt, it's a big needle, I want to see the needle,'" Videau said. "Then after they get it, it's real quick, they say 'Oh it didn't hurt,' then they tell the rest of their friends it didn't hurt."

The three seconds with the needle gives the students a tetanus vaccine good for 10 years. "This is a public health issue," Misuraca said. "So in a way we're protecting the community by making sure they have their proper vaccinations. It makes my job easier."



SPORTS

Field Of Dreams

LTJG Matthew Flynn
VP-26 Public Affairs Officer

Recently a Trident of Patrol Squadron Twenty-six (VP-26) received a phone call with a very special invitation. Aviation Systems Warfare Operator Second Class Ryan Shephard was notified of his selection to attend the 2004 United States Navy Baseball Team Spring Training Camp in San Diego, California. Those select few, talented enough to play for the team, represent the Naval service by competing against some of the best baseball programs from around the country.

The Navy Baseball Team is an affiliate of the San Diego Padres and is a member of the Western Professional Baseball Association. In an effort to compete against the best talent available, the Navy team faces various foreign, collegiate, semi-professional, and scout teams. Following the regular season, an All-Star team comprised of top players from all the services play an extremely competitive travel schedule against powerhouse programs like LSU, Florida, Florida State, Auburn, Alabama and Mississippi State.

Navy Baseball participants represent their Service and community not only on the playing field, but also by spending many off-duty hours conducting free clinics and participating in community relations programs. They continuously work with various Little League organizations and appear at schools, churches, youth groups, Inner City Games, Special Olympics, and Veterans Wheelchair Olympics. Since 1993, they have visited over 100,000 children

and families in the surrounding San Diego area as well as communities to the south in Mexico.

The Navy Baseball Team has had their eye on Petty Officer Shephard for some time and specifically scouted him last summer when he played in the 101st Anniversary of the Twilight Baseball League. Petty Officer Shephard represented himself and Team Trident in fine fashion, holding a .323 batting average through 41 games while adding 15 RBIs and eight stolen bases. Displaying tremendous skills both in the field as well as on the bases, he threw out 85 percent of his runners while playing catcher, and finished with a perfect 4-0 record from the mound with a 1.15 earned run average (ERA) as a pitcher.

Despite the tremendous offer afforded him by the Navy Baseball Team, Petty Officer Shephard has elected to remove his name from consideration for this year's team. He realized his responsibilities to the Navy and Team Trident must start with his operational commitments as an aircrewman with while deployed with VP-26 here at NAS Sigonella. He intends to continue honing his skills while deployed and even plans on assisting with local Little League clinics during his stay. With operational commitments completed later this Fall, Petty Officer Shephard will once again compete for an opportunity to join other Navy standouts in San Diego in 2005. "Team Trident" is proud of Petty Officer Shephard's achievements and salutes him for his hard work and dedication both on and off the field.

Basketball Champions

By PH2(AW/SW) Catherine R. Kee

Patrol Squadron Twenty-Six's (VP-26) "Tridents" continued to prove their athletic abilities by adding another First Place trophy to their trophy case in an exciting face off against Naval Air Reserve's "Bullets" on January 26, 2004.

The Tridents, who finished the regular season ranked third, lost a game to the Bullets early in the tournament, putting them down by one game in a double elimination format going into the final match-up of the tournament. "We went into the night knowing we had to win two games in a row to take the championship. Fortunately, we had come out on top when we faced the Bullets in the regular season, so we knew we had a good chance to win it all," said Trident coach PN2(AW) Tulimalefoi Mauga.

Both the Bullets and the Tridents came into the match looking to win, and it showed on the court. The two teams continued to swap the lead until the end of the second half when the Bullets started to pull ahead. The Bullets were leading by 11 points with a little under two minutes left to play.

Mids Set To Open 2004 Home Slate

From Navysports.com

After playing its first 10 games of the season away from the friendly confines of Max Bishop Stadium, the Navy baseball team hosts the UMBC Retrievers Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the first game of a 4-game homestand. In 58 seasons at Max Bishop, the Midshipmen have posted a .741 winning percentage (704-242-14).

The Mids enter the contest with a 1-9 record and have lost six straight, while UMBC is still searching for its first win of the 2004 season. The Retrievers dropped to 0-6 after being swept at home by Army, 7-1, 7-0 and 7-6, over the weekend. In 15 previous meetings between the programs, UMBC holds an 8-7 advantage. Last year, the two teams split a pair of games. Navy downed the Retrievers 9-1 in the 2003 home opener, but fell 5-1 on UMBC's field.

"We're excited to get the opportunity to finally play on our home field this season," said Navy coach Steve Whitmyer, whose squads are 2-2 in home openers during his tenure. "I am really happy that it is UMBC that we are starting things off with at home. I have a lot of respect for coach John Jancuska and his program. They will be a really good test for our team."

During its recent six-game slide, the Mids have struggled

"They were up by 11 when we stole the ball on an inbound pass and scored," said SK1(AW) Sonteral Martin, one of the Trident players. "That put us down by nine with 45 seconds left in the game with timeout called. At that point we knew we had a chance if we could continue to press and force scoring opportunities." The Tridents did just that, coming back to triumph over the Bullets 55 to 52 with a flurry of scoring in the closing seconds. The team then went out and did it again, winning the championship by outscoring the Bullets 65 to 59 in the final game of the tournament.

The team led by Personnel Man Second Class Mauga proudly presented their First Place trophy to CDR Matthew J. Carter, VP-26 Commanding Officer, on February 10, 2004 once deployed to NAS Sigonella. During the last year of home cycle training, the Tridents earned a first place trophy for soccer and a second place for softball with the basketball championship trophy being added to the collection.

offensively and in the field. Navy has averaged .222 during the streak and has scored more than two runs just twice in the last six contests. In the field, the Mids have had a tough time handling the ball with 19 errors in the last six games. Part of the offensive problems can be attributed to the loss of lead-off hitter Pete Curnow (Jr., Morristown, N.J.) to injury. Curnow, who injured an ankle leading off the second game against Maryland-Eastern Shore, was batting .476 with four steals in the seven games he played. He is expected to miss three to four weeks. Senior captain Dean Farmer (Sr., Knoxville, Tenn.) has also missed four of the last six games with an injury.

The offensive and defensive woes have overshadowed solid pitching by Navy. The pitching staff has a combined 2.96 ERA during the recent streak. Of the 30 runs scored by opposing teams during the losing stretch, only 16 runs have been earned. Five hurlers, who have tossed more than an inning have an ERA of under three in the six games. Jeff Lange (Jr., Springfield, Va.) and Burgess Nichols (Fr., Haworth, N.J.) have not allowed a run in 6.1 and 3.0 innings of work, respectively. Rob Molinaro (Fr., Charlestown, Mass.) has an ERA of 1.64 in 11 innings with 10 strikeouts.

The Lane

Best Ball Golf Tournament

Round up your team for this game of golf at the 11 Picciolo Golf Club on March 6. Tee time is 9 a.m. Lunch and awards included. There will be a pre-game meeting at Jox on March 4 at 4 p.m. Small entry fee plus greens fees needed. CaLL 624-2710 for more information.

Aerobics instructor training

Every Friday and Saturday in March you can get certified to teach spin, step, kickboxing, yoga and circuit training. Classes are limited to 15 participants so sign up today. Registration is ongoing. Call the NAS I or NAS II fitness Centers at 624-4483 or 624-5243 for more information.

3-on-3 basketball tournament

Start gathering your friends for your team so you can show off your best moves and beat the competition. The tournament will be March 29, at the NAS I Fitness Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sign up by March 25 at the NAS I Fitness Center. Men's and women's divisions and the top three teams win T-shirts. Double elimination tournament.

Acireale – The oldest *Carnevale di Sicilia*

By Gaetana Cummaudo and
Lt. Cmdr. T. Moesinger

If you have not had a chance to enjoy or participate in an Italian Carnival, you're really missing out. Whether you enjoy folkloric music, fireworks, colorful costumes, wild merry-making, or beautiful floats in the parade, make sure to go and you'll have a fantastic time.

Acireale's *Carnevale* spirit permeates the entire town. All of the main streets are closed to traffic, and the entire town shuts down to participate in the fun. The streets are lined with vendors selling hats, *torrone* candies, and plastic hammers that make a chirping sound upon contact with someone's head. This happy atmosphere gives a clear understanding of how warm and friendly Sicilian people are.

All children, young teenagers, and even a few adults are dressed up in fancy costumes such as angels, jesters, devils, princes, cartoon characters, and clowns. Everyone is eager to participate in pranks and jokes, and no one is offended if they are tapped on the head with a plastic hammer or sprayed with projectile shaving foam. It is all a part of the festivities.

Of all the interesting features of the most ancient carnival in Sicily, the floats are the most amazing.



Photo by Paul (S)W. from Cummaudo



Photo by Paul (S)W. from Cummaudo



Photo by Paul (S)W. from Cummaudo

The floats or *Carri*, which often depict Italian or international politicians such as Silvio Berlusconi, the current Premier or President Bush and are made of papier-mâché. The other types of *Carri* are covered entirely with fresh flowers such as carnations, marigolds, roses, and seeds. These beautiful flower floats reminded me of the Rose Parade in Pasadena, as each flower is painstakingly attached to create an image or scene of traditional carnival characters.

So if you haven't made time to attend a *Carnevale sfilata* (parade) definitely plan for next year! Of the ubiquitous traditions on this island, *Carnevale* has a special place in the hearts of all Sicilians and will go on annually as it has since ancient times.

Above: Like the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena entire floats are covered with flowers and petals.

Far Left: A fire breathing dragon was just one of many floats in this year's *Carnevale* parade.

Left: *Carnevale* revelers covered in shaving cream.

Tridents have a winntry blast at NSA Souda Bay

Lt. Cmdr. Sean Ensign,
OIC Souda Bay

Tridents are quite accustomed to deploying anywhere in the world, and stand ready to do so at a moment's notice. As such, detachment operations to the normally sunny and pleasant isle of Crete should not have presented any particular difficulty. However, it would appear that a dedicated group of VP-26's finest may have been having trouble adapting to that warm and sunny climate—and brought a little of their much-missed Brunswick, Maine winter weather with them. Just last week, a heretofore-inconceivable role reversal was in the meteorological works. While frigid temperatures and snow are common back home in Maine, just the opposite was about to play out in the southern reaches of the Mediterranean. As Brunswick basked in the relatively warm 40s, Maine's typical cold winter air, and its associated snow, must have traveled east with the Trident PATRON Souda detachment to NSA Souda Bay, Crete.

In a meteorologically anomalous event of epic proportions, NSA Souda Bay's temperatures plummeted to near freezing and the area was blanketed by more than a foot of heavy, wet snow. Although flurries have occasionally been observed in winters past, they seldom accumulate. In fact, it was 27 years ago that a shocking 5" fell, stunning

the Greek populace. This event did little, however, to prepare the island for the winter pounding received last week. Surprisingly, there is absolutely no record of a snow event of this magnitude ever occurring on Crete. The heavily accumulated snow—along with its ensuing widespread power and utility outages and disruptions, requisite traffic accidents, and countless downed trees—left most area roads impassable and the airfield unable to conduct flight operations for three days. Undeterred, locals and base personnel came together and immediately began the process of cleaning up and restoring services.

With a few breaks in clouds, temperatures in the 40s and near-continual rainfall, any traces of the snow and ice storm have been all but eliminated, and life in the Souda Bay area is returning to normal. Now that this Trident detachment has survived a 'once-in-a-hundred-years' winter, these hardy souls are ready to face whatever perils summer, and Crete's warm, sandy beaches, may throw at them...



CTN, page 11

tration) ratings. As Sailors convert over time to CTN, these legacy ratings will be collapsed and disestablished.

"Creation of the CTN rating is a positive move toward consolidation of CT skills," said Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. "Establishment of a single rating is the most effective and efficient way to engage the types of information technology and computer network threats we face in this new century."

Initial conversion to the CTN rating will be limited to personnel already designated as Cryptologic Technicians. Ultimately, all eligible Sailors will be able to apply for conversion.

A naval message will follow soon announcing application procedures, selection criteria and submission deadlines.

Medical Corps from page 2

same time provide health care to family members and military retirees.

"Navy physicians, by volunteering for the Medical Corps, are dedicating part of their medical career to serving those who serve this nation," said Rear Adm. Donald C. Arthur, chief of the Medical Corps and commanding officer of the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md. "Naval Medicine provides the best health care in the world."

Navy physicians meet the challenge of balancing the health care needs of a diverse population of beneficiaries and meeting military medical missions.

"We are masters of the unexpected," said Arthur. "Our doctors can work under the most austere conditions. They practice medicine in garrison with the Marines, at sea and in combat, where they are faced with injuries of incredible severity and complexity. Because of the part they play in Naval Medicine, it is vital to maintain professional qualifications and readiness to support Sea Power 21 and the Commandant's Guidance."

The Navy Medical Corps includes more than 47 specialties and nearly 200 subspecialties.

"Physicians in the Navy fill many roles," said Capt. Michael P. Malanoski, the Medical Corps career planner at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. "The most recognizable are the practicing clinicians in the hospitals and clinics, and those assigned to the operational forces, like general medical officers, flight surgeons and undersea/diving medical officers. There is also a small cadre of physicians involved in basic and clinical research focused on military-specific areas, like infectious diseases, biological warfare, blood banking and advanced trauma care. Also, many physicians fill positions in executive medicine as leaders in the Navy, either at the MTFs or in the field."

"This birthday is a celebration. We recognize the accumulation of professionalism in Naval Medicine," said Arthur. "We are not just celebrating a particular Corps, because the Medical Corps is inextricable from all the other corps in the Medical Department. We are a team. The doctors, nurses, corpsmen, dentists, technicians and Medical Service Corps members work together."

"I will be leaving as head of the Medical Corps on March 6," said Arthur. "I've been the Corps Chief for four and a half years, and it has been one of the proudest times for me as a naval officer because of the incredible level of professionalism I've seen in the Medical Department. I am very proud to be part of the Medical Corps."

Trivia Answers

- 1) St. Louis
- 2) Vulcan, the Roman god of fire
- 3) D: lepidopterist, a giant swallowtail is the largest North American butterfly
- 4) Moby Doll
- 5) B: Budapest

Troop rotation from page 3

Cooper, a CH-46 helicopter avionicsman with Marine Medium Helicopter Support Squadron (HMM) 261 en route to Iraq. "We're all excited to get in and do what we've been trained to do."

There is, of course, some anxiety, Cooper added, but he has absolute faith in his training and his fellow Marines.

"Fear is normal, but we've been trained to do this very thing, and we're excited," Cooper said.

"One team, one fight. That's what it's all about," said Rear Adm. Willie Clyde Marsh, Commander, Task Force 51. "No matter what uniform you're wearing, whether you're here on shore or at sea, it takes all of us to get the job done."



HC-4 from page1

The Black Stallions chose AT2(NAC) Albert Snipes as their Junior sea Sailor of the Year, who is described as "one of the most dynamic people I have ever met," by Sarver.

"Petty officer Snipes always has a positive attitude, you can't stop him from going out and fixing things, if it needs to be done he'll do it," Sarver said. "He is a very well rounded aircrewman who knows it takes everyone working together to get the job done

and he tries to learn everyone's job because he knows that sometimes to get the work done he's going to have to help them. He flies a lot and is one of our most qualified aircrewman."

Snipes, a four year Navy veteran from Bingham, Maine, explained that he knew he was nominated but when he won he was quite surprised. "I was happy someone noticed me, but I didn't know what it meant to be chosen as Sailor of the Year."



Photo by PHOTOSW/Barb Curran



Photo by PHOTOSW/Barb Curran



Photo by PHOTOSW/Barb Curran

Top left: AM1 James Hale helps customers customers at Maintenance Control.
Top Right: ABH1 Jorge Escobar talks with an aircrewman during preflight checks.
Bottom left:
Bottom right: YN2 Nicholas Wilson helps a customer at executive admin office.



Dogfish from page1

submarine and each ship is able to detect each other and then carry out simulated attacks on each other so that they can test their detection and their attack procedures."

These are what are called "deeper-water" operations where submarines operate best - where they are far more difficult to detect. However, to practice the Spanish special forces insertion, the operations moved closer to land.

The scenario was that the area around Sicily, on land and at sea, was in need of assistance from a NATO force. "First of all, submarines will simulate firing cruise missiles," Burwin said. "As we have all seen on most television stations in recent years, it's the first hit in every war. The success of the strikes of those particular weapons rely on special operations forces." Special forces would covertly aid in such things as targeting for the missiles during real operations.

The training scenario involved interoperability and communication between a Spanish T-19 aircraft, the Italian corvette ITS Driade and the SPS Galerna. But the whole operation involves much more. "Whereas today [we only saw] Italian and Spanish forces interoperating, you must remember that we do have 14 nations here doing just that," Burwin said during operations. "Each having to communicate in their own languages to their own units and in a common language outside their own unit. It is arguable that that communication is the single most difficult part [of the exercise]."

Burwin said the interoperability between nations went just as expected: perfectly. "They need specialists in particular languages in order to enable



ures we look for are the amount of contacts the submarines or the aircraft have made and the amount of attacks the submarines or aircraft have made," Burwin said. "We have more attacks and more contacts than we did in previous years."

There were also no issues with safety during the exercise. "With a lot of aircraft, a lot of ships and a lot of submarines there's a big issue," Burwin stated. "We had no safety problems."

Operation Dogfish wrapped up on March 3.

(Left) A Sailor aboard the Italian corvette *ITS Driade* scans the horizon using a pair of binoculars during Operation Dogfish on Feb. 29.

(Bottom left) Cmdr. Andrea Barbalonga, commanding officer of the *ITS Driade*, peers starboard as the ships get underway from Augusta Bay, Sicily.

(Bottom) The Spanish submarine *SPS Galerna* surfaces during Operation Dogfish on Feb. 29 off the coast of Siracusa.

interoperability to happen," he said. "Occasionally, in submarine warfare, a very specialized type of warfare, we perceive problems. However with Dogfish, as with most NATO exercises, the specialists are on board, the communications are working, so interoperability is no problem."

The exercise as a whole went smoothly. "For an anti-submarine exercise, the fig-





Il Mercato

The Signature

Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at sigsignature@yahoo.com.

Ads run for two weeks and are run on a space available basis and **must be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/ American base employees.**

Ads must be **40 words or less.** The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Jerry Boritzki @ 095-307-412 to pay for an advertisement.

Paid Ads

Wanting to take a vacation but you have no place to leave your pet? Book your Pet-Sitter Today. Call 347-7911051.

SKY decoder box w/satellite dish 100 Euro Call Vincent 334-343-4612.

Automotive

1997 Honda CRV. One of a kind. Full time AWD. Full power. Automatic trans. U.S. specs, cover plates, new tires. PCS Sale \$12,000. Won't Last. Call 624-0268 Evenings 3476870667.

1990 Lancia Thema 2000cc. 16 valve. Color blue, general good conditions: new tires, A/C... Asking 1,900,00 Euro. Call Maria at x5781 or 338/1083531.

1998 Ford F150 XLT. Black, tinted windows, flareside with bed liner V6 runs awesome, only has 52,000 miles with new tires. Asking 12,000 O.B.O. Call Rommel Cortezano at wk: x5177 or cell 333648723, home: 095306442.

2002 Harley Davidson Superglide Sport like new with extras. Purple in color with blacked-out engine. Have all original parts. 3,700 original miles on it. \$14,500 OBO. Call AE1 Morse @ 624-5441/5442 or 095-89-6932 or 3402777245.

1998 Toyota Tacoma. Xtra Cab, 4X4, SR5, A/C, CD, 5 speed trans., int. wipers, tilt, sliding rear window, 54 K miles, \$11,000. Work phone 624-2725, after work hours 335-801-0257.

1992 Alfa 155 2.0ltr. 84,000km Black, 4dr, Alloy Wheels, A/C Perfect Shape. 3500.00 euros Call 340-600-3960.

1981 Fiat 131. Blue, four door, PW, AFI plates. Oil just changed. Runs good. Asking \$800. Call Backer at x6157.

2003 Harley Davidson Road King Classic (FLHRCI) 100th Year Anniversary Edition, Black & Silver, 800 miles. Asking price \$25,000.00 OBO. Contact Lowell Karcher at 624-5087 W, 624-1339 H, 338 735 2831 Cell.

1995 Kawasaki 500 EN custom Red and black\ twin cyl., 5 speed. Asking \$2300 fmi call 340-980-8927.

1992 VW PASSAT - Dark Grey. Good condition. New tires and brakes. Power windows, locks, steering. A/C. Paid \$3,000 Asking \$2,600. Call Jeremy 3475081962, 095309176, or X5143. Email kinderj@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.

1992 Lancia Dedra in mint condition price \$2200.00 call me on my cell 338-2185499 or dial 6041 ask for Joseph.

1996 Daewoo Nexia 16V metallic blue, A/C, ABS, car alarm, power locks and windows, radio, like new. Asking 3,450 euro For more info call Dante at 6246041 or 347-7252937.

91 Fiat Tempra Asking 1000.00 new tires for 500.00 Brand new clutch only 6 months old. Replaced the head on the engine, new battery, 12 disc CD changer Great running car has some body damages but very reliable!!! Ask for Matt cell 340-5930599.

1994 Honda NSR. Perfect beginners bike, excellent conditions, color red, garage kept. Asking \$1,900. Call at 333-7435988.

1994 Seat Ibiza sport 1.4 black color, new tires, good engine, excellent condition, very reliable car, remote locking, asking \$2500, call aldo at 349-5039145 or x6730.

2001 Suzuki GSR 750 Excellent condition, many extras, and quiet, few spare parts included. Blue Book is \$6700 completely stock, asking \$6500.00 OBO Call John at 624-1340 or 335-831-4485.

1994 FIAT 500 (new model), good condition and very secondary reliable vehicle. For sale \$1500 OBO. Ask for Sergio DSN:624-4700 (0730-1600) cell:3291628645.

1997 Honda Civic EX. manual transmission, custom paint job black/blue, new battery, two new tires, sunroof, A/C, power windows/locks, alarm system, CD player, spoiler, lots of extras! \$6,700. Day x4576/x5446 Night x3569.

1988 FIAT PANDA, red in color, AFI plated, standard transmission, brand new battery, great working condition, perfect for Sicilian driving, great on gas mileage. \$1700 OBO. Day x4576/x5446 Night x3569.

1989 Red BMW 318is AFI 2dr. , A/C, PW, PL, Sunroof, keyless entry, security system 74,000 miles Maintenance Records Great Condition, Very Reliable \$3500 neg. Call 624-9240/1491.

1987 Volkswagen Cabriolet. white, convertible, 2 door, automatic, great condition, heat, A/C, new battery, sheep skin seat covers. Asking \$2,500. Available mid-March. Call Melissa at x1509 or email me at slimguerr@yahoo.com.

1993 Toyota Pick-up for sale. Transferring back to the states and must sell. 2.2R 4 cyl, 5 speed and ice cold A/C. Recently had a tune-up and tires. Comes with a toolbox. Runs great. Asking \$2300. Call Dan 624-3627 or 3405937725.

1995 Rover 220 Turbo. Dark metallic blue, black interior,

2-door, 5-speed, T-tops, 100k miles, sporty and unique. Asking \$4000, but negotiable. Call Kris 334-3680923.

ALFA GTV V6 TB Great condition. A lot of extras. Asking \$7,500 O.B.O. Call Brian 3409809951.

1984 BMW 318i. Blue-Silver, 4dr with 182,000km. 5-speed Runs great. Interior needs a little work. Tires almost new, front struts are 1yr old. A/C needs recharged. \$1500 O.B.O contact Bryan @ 624-0112 on base or 095860112 off base after 1630.

2002 Ducati ST-4s motorcycle. Red, 996cc, European specs, 8000 kilometers. Asking \$5,800. Includes side bags and helmet. Call 095-307851 or 335-640-3541.

Fiat 500 Station Wagon. Excellent condition. 349-3992681.

2001 Honda VFR800fi Interceptor (Euro spec.) Metallic Blue, AFI plated, 14,600 original-owner miles. Never wrecked, garage kept, responsibly used, well maintained. Givi E41 side bags, lots of other extras. \$6,000 firm. Call Scott or Lana X5113, 095-52-9401, 335-130-6831.

Mercedes 300 SE. Beige metallized, AC unit, 2 alarms, Hi-Fi + CD player, full optional, perfect condition (body and engine). Asking Euro 5,500 or best offer. Call 340 8218708.

Pegout 405 1800cc. Motor and body in good condition. 1000 Euro. 339-4011979.

1993 Alfa 164 Tbw6. Full options. Asking \$3,000. Call Vito at 348-9711711.

1996 Honda Civic 1300 16V Black, full options. A/C, Hi Fi car with CD. \$5500.

1995 Opel Omega 2000 4 door, childlocks, 5-speed, immaculate condition with air condition, Black. Call 3355372171 or 0957116803.



Send Il Mercato advertisements to sigosignature@yahoo.com

1993 BMW 318i, Green, 5 sp, AC, AM/FM cass, 90,000 km with five extra deluxe tires. Excellent condition, AFI plated. Asking \$ 6,800 US. Call X 6483 workday or 624-1245 after 1600. Ask for Mike.

Pets

Free to good home: 1 and a half year old pure bred male rottweiler. Emergency PCSing and can not bring him. Call Valerie or Brooks at 624-0521 any time.

Five two-month old puppies, free to loving families. Mixed breed (Mixture German Shepard). Call Marisa at 624-5707 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pls call only if interested.

Free to a good home. 5 yr old Shepard/husky mix. Neutered and all shots up to date. Need to find a home for him before July. Call 624-3574 or come by 314D in 205 housing to see.

Free to good home. 2 adult female (spayed) Cat's shots up to date and always kept indoors. Need to find good family. Wife is pregnant. Call x3558 or 3407710522.

Male Husky needs a good home. House broken, leash trained. Medium size. Free to whoever would like him. Call Jennifer at 095520181 or 3395219943.

For Sale

Complete living room sale...Tables (3) Sofa and loveseat, all including lamps and carpet. PCS sale. Call 624-0268 Evenings 3476870667.

Jamet Jamecic Camper. Sleeps up to eight people. New Tires, all Italian camping electrical wires, lights and plugs, double foam bed. Perfect for the family. Call 3476870667 or 624-0628.

Furniture and accessories on sale, all various prices. Please contact Pat at 3334717661 or after 5 p.m. 095308510.

Furniture for sale. Kitchen including fridge, oven wooden table and chairs. Complete master bedroom including carpets. Entrance. Sofa. Two carpets all in Italian style. For more information call 624-4577 or 340-9234432.

Electric guitar IBANEZ RG470FM model, blue transparent flamed maple top, 24 fret rosewood neck, Floyd rose tremolo, DiMarzio bridge pick-up...sounds great, perfect condition. Contact Salvo at 095-306674 after 5:00 pm.

PALM Portable keyboard with software. NEW in unopened box. Ordered one and got two. Works with any palm PDA or IBM Workpad c3 Companion. Asking \$65.00. For more details call Ray at x0296 or 3487648379.

Boflex Power Pro \$1,500, Ab Rocker \$25, have all papers for both. Women's leather jacket XS(petite)/worn couple of times, bought for \$200 will sell for \$150, more info contact Neil or Amanda x0254.

Sanyo 27 inch television for \$100. Panasonic multi-system VCR for \$40. Buy both for \$120. Call Danny at x7444 or 3394208954.

New looking lazy-boy green couch and loveseat. All the way recliner. Asking \$450 firm. Call @ 339-624-3428 or 335-841-1826.

Infant Graco car seat with base (up to twenty pounds), never used (\$40). Jenny Lind brown wood changing table with pad (\$20). Two adult mountain bikes, one is four years old but barely used (\$50), second one is two years old and used once, comes with tire pump (\$75). Call 624-3263 daytime, 095 30 6092 evening.

Extra large, comfortable, tan couch and Love seat. Two years old no rips, no stains, no tears. Smoke free home. Very little wear. Includes denim slipcovers. Asking \$400.00 OBO. Call Melissa @ 624-1575 after 9:30 a.m. and before 8 p.m.

Natuzzi leather sleeper sofa, blue, brand new condition. \$1200. TV/VCR 13" Assortment of CD Rom games-\$5-10, email or call for individual prices; Brown medicine cabinet w/mirror, shelves, lights - \$15; Computer desk - \$100; White chest of drawers - \$20; Italian 3 shelf baker's rack w/ 21 bottle holder, goblet holder - \$500. 095-472-199 or 3357625467 or dguamo23@hotmail.com."

COMPUTER for home use. Microsoft eTower 733i with CDrom and 56k modem. Packard Bell full color monitor. Hewlett Packard DeskJet 694C color printer. Keyboard, mouse, standard speakers. Perfect condition. Asking \$400 OBO. Call Jon or Pam at 095-998570.

Baby Walker, Safety First Safari model. \$15. Call Sylvia at 624-1237.

Bombolas -\$5; Brand new large bulletin board - \$30; Italian towel rack - \$15; 220v fan, iron, waffle iron - \$10 each; 220v light fixtures; Cat litter box, travel carrier and

food - all for \$15; Tall brown shelf - \$50. 095-472-199 or 3357625467.

Brand new Hitachi HD projection TV 54" Multisystem. Unit is 110/220 Volt 50/60 Hz. Purchased for \$2,500.00 will sell for \$1,500.00. PCSing. Contact Edward @ 3206027252 or www.ewhite.cjb.net for pictures

Two Panasonic DVD players. Both less than a year old. Bought for \$179 each, will sell for \$50 each. Microwave \$50. Vacuum cleaner \$25. Work: Rommel X5177 or 5714 Denise, HM 095306442.

Four new tires for a Fiat 500, never used, and four tires and rims in good shape with chrome hubcaps. Call Bill @ 624-3564

Selling a queen size bed - springboard and (white) frame for \$150.00 call 624-2560 or 347-7802963.

Kelty kids trek backpack carrier with many extras \$100; Graco neat seat high chair \$50; portable soft seat chair that attaches to table \$5; light-weight stroller \$5; wipe warmer \$3; two-panel drapes, three matching valences that fit Mineo LV/DR Doors. Sage, Cream and beige \$50; four matching throw pillows and one neck roll, match curtains \$10; for pictures please e-mail me at kmlee29@yahoo.com. 624-0677.

Wanted

HC-4 in search of a bagpipe player for squadron dining out - 2000 Mar. 13, 2004. Please contact LT Dulin or LTJTG Leclerc at x6668

TYCO HO Scale Slot Car Track & Sets, or any slot car track you may have laying around or stuffed way up in that closet. Call Johnathan 095-46-3002.

Lost

Reward for recovery of red backpack "lost." Has gym locker keys attached and items of no value to anyone except me inside; contact lenses, luggage keys, etc... Keep the bag, I just want my stuff. Pls call - Cell 335-578-9322 or Hm. x1283.

Mens' 18K gold Gucci style bracelet. One link near hook has an "S" imprinted in it and appears like white gold. Chain may have broke and dropped off in the vicinity of NH Sigonella, exchange and commissary complex, post office, base library; and also on NAS II at Mess

Facility, 7-Day Store, Fleet Mail Center, PSD, MWR Main Office ,during the week of 16-20 Feb 2004. Reward. Call Phil at 347.928.1522 or email at ciaoomeow1999@yahoo.com.

Found

Found piece of jewelry on NAS I, e-mail with date lost and description to rob_sigo@yahoo.com

Yard Sale

Saturday, March 6. Time: 0800 - Whenever. Mineo 1016A, Constellation Dr.

Multi-family yard sale, Saturday March 6, 8:30am to 1pm, community of Via Pisa, Marinaia

Jobs

U.S. Naval Hospital Sigonella is soliciting for full-time personalized service contract for a medical surgical unit registered nurse. Closing date is March 12. Sources must be eligible for U.S. employment and U.S. board certified. Solicitation packages are available at the supply department, purchasing office on NAS II. Call MR. Barbagallo at 624-5725 or MS. Randazzo at 624-3792.

Donation

1) Sentence skills, 5th edition form A - from John Langan 2) Elementary Statistics, 7th edition - from Mario F. Triola 3) Essential algebra, with problem solving - from Bittenger/Keedy Call Pat 3334717661 or after 5 p.m. at 095-308510

HRO

Recreation Aid, GS-0189-03, MWR Department, Recreation Services Division, Youth Activities Branch, various location, Sigonella. Announcement number SIG03-RECAID. Open Continuous.

Education AID/Technician, GS-1702-03/04, MWR Department, Child Development Center. Announcement number SIG03-EDTECH. Open Continuous.

Religious Education Director (Catholic), GS-1702-05/07, Chaplain Department, Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-026294. Closing 05 March 2004.

